



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada

Canada



BUILDING CANADA'S FOOD AND AGRICULTURE BRAND IN THE WORLD

Canada's agriculture and food industry feeds the world safe, healthy food that is well-respected by international trading partners. Canada is the world's fourth-largest exporter of agriculture and seafood products and is internationally recognized for high-quality products.

Alberta's Contribution

Crop and livestock production works about 21-million hectares, 30 per cent of Alberta's land area. This quilt of farms and ranches covers the plain that is mostly semi-arid grassland and sub-humid aspen parkland.

Alberta continues to focus on innovation and strengthening the agriculture and agri-food sector, strategically important to the province's future. The Institute for Food and Agricultural Sciences, a four-partner alliance including Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, has three research priorities: foods for health; sustainable agricultural production; and industrial bio-refining and bio-products from agricultural materials.

Alberta's agri-food international exports exceeded \$8-billion in 2008 with the U.S., Japan and Mexico as the primary markets.

Agri-Food


Wheat, excluding durum, is Alberta's top agri-food export and accounts for more than 23 per cent of exports. Beyond livestock feed, there is more to wheat than to be milled into flour for baked goods. The grain is also used to brew beer and distil vodka, and as a raw material for biofuel.

In second place, canola seed (also known as rape or colza seed) exported for oil extraction represents 19.8 per cent of Alberta's exports. Refined colza oil, among many applications, is an edible oil used in margarine and an additive in mineral oil, or as a raw material for refining biodiesel.

Alberta beef, perhaps the province's best known product next to oil, accounted for just less than 10 per cent of the value of Alberta's international exports in 2008. Nearly 60 per cent of Canada's beef is produced in this province. The largest cattle feeding network and the largest beef processors are located in this province.

Did you know?

The town of Fahler, centrally located in Alberta's Peace River Country, lays claim to the Honey Capital of Canada. The surrounding region produces 40 per cent of Canada's honey, or 4.5-million kilograms. White honey, some of the world's purest, has made the area famous. Alberta honey is shipped worldwide, but primarily to the U.S. that values the high quality and pale colour, and purchases 50 to 80 per cent of annual exports.



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